PIKE COUNTY

Honorable William G. Hightower

Pike County Courthouse Troy, AL 36081 (334) 566-5222



Geoffrey Owens Terry Watkins Isabell Boyd Patrica Smith Florence Mitchell Don Schofield Keith Barron Kimberly Thompkins Gary L. Mcaliley Alan Boothe Wendell Mitchell Ken Vaughn Linda Felton-Smith Hank Jones Samuel Mark Bazzell

PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Issues

Issues are the primary concerns or problems facing children in the county.

Health - Children's (0 - 19) physical and mental well-being in the county.

Improved pre-natal and post-natal care and awareness of health care coverage

Policy Council Action Steps:

Expanded mental health services to children and adolescents

Policy Council Action Steps:

Health issues including substance abuse, unsafe sexual behavior, unhealthy dietary behaviors combined with physical inactivity

Policy Council Action Steps:

Safety - Children live free of abuse, neglect, crime, and drugs.

After school prevention programs for at-risk children

Policy Council Action Steps:

Strengthened families through enhanced family counseling for intra-family conflict resolution and parenting skills training

Policy Council Action Steps:

Education - Children

learn the skills necessary to become productive citizens.

Intensive educational needs of young people beyond alternative schools

Policy Council Action Steps:

Enhanced learning resources for children with unique needs including improving inter-agency communication

Policy Council Action Steps:

Early Care and Education - or

Education - Children

(0-5) are provided opportunities to fully develop emotionally, socially, physically, and cognitively and are ready to succeed.

Additional county day care programs

Policy Council Action Steps:

Early education and intervention regarding healthy lifestyles

Policy Council Action Steps:

Economic Security

- Children grow up in a financially stable home where the child's basic needs can be met.

Parenting skills training

Policy Council Action Steps:

Parent Involvement and Skills - Parents and

guardians participation and effectiveness in fostering an environment for children to become mature, responsible and independent adults.

Parenting skills training

Policy Council Action Steps:

Policy Recommendation

- 1. Funding to establish after-school prevention programs
- 2. Family counseling programs
- 3. Parenting skills training/anger management
- 4. Establishment of day treatment programs
- 5. Additional funding for special programs within school systems to meet unique educational needs
- 6. Promote coordination and awareness of available resources for job training and employment opportunities
- 7. Additional funding for counties for day care programs
- 8. Expand mental health services to children and adolescents including access to quality residential treatment for children and adolescents with major mental health issues

PIKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S POLICY COUNCIL 2005 NEEDS ASSESSMENT